## CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Investigator:		Team:	CCRB Case #:	$\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$	Force		Discourt.	U.S.
Owen Godshall		Squad #10	201705307	V	Abuse		O.L.	☐ Injury
Incident Date(s)		Location of Incident:		F	Precinct:	18	Mo. SOL	EO SOL
Tuesday, 06/27/2017 11:40 PM		Fulton Street and Clinton Avenue			88	12	2/27/2018	12/27/2018
Date/Time CV Reported		CV Reported At:	How CV Reported:		Date/Time	Rec	eived at CC	RB
Wed, 06/28/2017 6:00 PM		Office of the Borough President E-mail			Thu, 06/29	0/201	7 4:32 PM	
Complainant/Victim	Type	Home Addre	ss		•			
Witness(es)		Home Addre	ss					
( ) ( )								
Subject Officer(s)	Shield	TaxID	Command					
1. LT Eric Delman	00000	922228	088 PCT					
Witness Officer(s)	Shield No	o Tax No	Cmd Name					
1. POM John Paul Zinser	16883	958199	088 PCT					
Officer(s)	Allegatio	n			Inve	stiga	ator Recor	nmendation
A.LT Eric Delman	Abuse: Lieutenant Eric Delman threatened §87(2)(b)							
	of force.	a	nd individuals with	the	use			
B.LT Eric Delman	Abuse: L	ieutenant Eric Delman tuse of force.	hreatened § <sup>87(2)(b)</sup>					
C.LT Eric Delman	Force: Li § 87(2)(b)	eutenant Eric Delman us	sed physical force ag	gain	ist			

### **Case Summary**

On June 27, 2017, \$87(2)(b) filed this complaint with IAB via telephone on behalf of his friend, \$87(2)(b) On July 5, 2017, it was forwarded to the CCRB via IAB log #2017-2597. On June 28, 2017, \$87(2)(b) filed a duplicate complaint with the office of Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams via email. Her complaint was forwarded to the CCRB on June 29, 2017.
At approximately 11:40 p.m. on June 27, 2017, \$87(2)(b) was socializing with several friends, including \$87(2)(b) \$87(2)(b) \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) \$87(2)(b) so vehicle was parked nearby. Eventually, \$87(2)(b) got into his vehicle to drive away. When he pulled out of his parking spot, he was pulled over by two plainclothes officers from the 88th Precinct, Lt. Eric Delman and PO John Paul Zinser. When the officers approached \$87(2)(b) so vehicle, they told him that he had an active bench warrant. The officers ordered \$87(2)(b) to exit his vehicle. \$7(2)(c) got out and spoke to the officers at the rear of his vehicle. The other civilians in the area gathered around \$87(2)(b) so vehicle to observe.
PO Zinser and Lt. Delman told again that he had an active warrant. Solution told them that he did not believe them. During this discussion, the officers told the civilians to step away. At one point, Lt. Delman took out his taser, pointed it at the civilians, and told them to step away (Allegation A).
Lt. Delman and PO Zinser attempted to place \$87(2)(b) in handcuffs. While attempting to handcuff him, Lt. Delman allegedly pointed a taser at him ( <b>Allegation B</b> ). He then allegedly threw \$87(2)(b) to the ground ( <b>Allegation C</b> ). \$87(2)(b) was unresponsive after he fell to the ground. An ambulance was subsequently called for him. \$87(2)(b) was transported to \$87(2)(b) He was ultimately arrested and charged with resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, riot, operating a vehicle with tinted windows and failing to signal a turn. \$87(2)(b) was treated at after his arrest.
There was no video footage for this incident.
<ul> <li>Mediation, Civil and Criminal Histories</li> <li>This case is ineligible for mediation due to \$87(2)(b) s hospitalization and arrest.</li> <li>A Notice of Claim request was submitted to the NYC Comptroller's office on September 22, 2017. It will be included in the case file upon receipt.</li> <li>\$87(2)(b). \$87(2)(c) (impair contract awards or CBAs)</li> </ul>
• No previous CCRB complaints were filed by or involved \$87(2)(b)  or \$87(2)(b)

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- § 87(2)(b)

  § 87(2)(b)
- Lt. Delman has been a member of the service for nineteen years, and there are two substantiated CCRB allegations against him:
  - In case #20100719, a stop allegation was substantiated against him. The CCRB recommended that he receive departmental charges, but the NYPD issued him instructions.
  - In case #201304699, a retaliatory summons was substantiated against him. The CCRB recommended that he receive departmental charges, but the NYPD issued him formalized training.
  - Lt. Delman has been the subject of forty-three allegations across twenty previous complaints. Three previous physical force allegations have been closed as unfounded, exonerated, and complainant uncooperative, respectively. Four previous threat of force allegations have been closed as complaint withdrawn and unsubstantiated.

#### **Potential Issues**

- was identified as a victim via his arrest report. The report listed his address, but not his telephone number. CLEAR and Lexis Nexis searches returned one potential telephone number for \$87(2)(b) A BADS search returned an additional telephone number. Three please-call letters were mailed to §37(2)(b) between July 3, 2017 and July 17, 2017. Between July 3, 2017 and July 26, 2017, seven calls were made to the first telephone number. It was found to be out of service on each call. During a call to the second number on July 12, 2017, a female respondent stated that she did not know and that he was not available at her number. On August 9, 2017, § 87(2)(b) called, stating that he had received the please-call letters. He provided a new telephone number, and scheduled an interview for August 18, 2017. \$37(2)(5) did not appear for this interview, and did not call ahead to cancel or reschedule. Between August 22, 2017 and September 6, 2017, seven calls were made to \$87(2)(b) at his updated number. Messages could not be left on any of these calls. To date, \$87(2)(6) has not reached out to the CCRB. A September 22, 2017 search of the NYC Department of Correction's online inmate database showed that § 97(2)(b) is not currently incarcerated. Since § did not sign a HIPAA release form, his medical records could not be obtained.
- During a telephone statement on August 9, 2017, \$87(2)(b) identified his girlfriend as a witness. He provided a telephone number for her. During a call later that day, \$87(2)(b) provided her mailing and email addresses as well. She also identified herself as a victim of a separate allegation. She also stated that she had videos of the incident, and agreed to email them to the CCRB. \$87(2)(b) was unable to schedule a sworn statement at the time, and asked to call her back in a few days.

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email on August 9, 2017, stating that the video file was too large to send via email. She was able to email a photograph that she took of Lt. Delman. Between August 14, 2017 and August 24, 2017, four additional calls were made to \$37(2)(6) to schedule her interview. Voicemails were left on each call. She was informed on the final voicemail that no further contact attempts would be made. Please-call letters were sent to \$37(2)(6) were returned to the CCRB by the US Postal Service. To date, she has not responded to these contact attempts or provided copies of her video footage. A September 22, 2017 search of the NYC Department of Correction's online inmate database showed that \$37(2)(6) is not currently incarcerated.

- During her telephone statement on August 9, 2017, \$87(2)(b) stated that Lt. Delman threatened her and several friends with the use of force. She was only able to identify two of these friends, \$87(2)(b) and \$87(2)(b) She did not know their contact information. Searches of the CTS, CLEAR and Lexis Nexis databases returned no information for either of them. Contact attempts therefore could not be made to either of them. A September 22, 2017 search of the CTS database showed that neither \$87(2)(b) is currently incarcerated.
- provided his address and telephone number in his initial complaint. He also identified \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ by name as the person who was arrested during the incident on the IAB intake recording. During a telephone call on July 10, 2017, however, \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ s name, and only knew the arrested individual by the nickname "\$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ had told him to "forget about" the incident. \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ was informed that he could contact the CCRB again if he decided to provide a statement in the future. To date, \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{87(2)(b)}\$ has not contacted the CCRB.
- or Two separate ICAD events were generated in regards to this incident: #\$\sqrt{97(2)(b)}\$ and #\$\sqrt{97(2)(b)}\$ (See Board Review #03-04: ICAD Events). The first recorded recorded an unidentified female calling to report that the police were harassing somebody near 909 Fulton Street, which is located at the intersection of Fulton Street and Clinton Avenue. This female hung up before connected to IAB. Her telephone number was obtained from the event information. After a first telephone call on July 26, 2017, the female provided a partial telephone statement. She asked to remain \$\sqrt{87(2)(b)}\$ She also indicated that she recorded video of the incident and would be willing to email it to the CCRB. The \$\sqrt{87(2)(b)}\$ female was unable to complete her telephone statement, and asked to call her back later. Between August 1, 2017 and August 14, 2017, six additional calls were made to her. Voicemails were left on each call. The \$\sqrt{87(2)(b)}\$ female did not respond to these contact attempts, and did not provide the video via email.
- \$87(2)(b) stated that her boyfriend, \$87(2)(b) also witnessed the incident alongside her. She provided his telephone number and mailing and email addresses. A first call was made to \$87(2)(b) on July 10, 2017, during which he Page 4

provided a telephone statement. It was later determined that \$\frac{\mathbb{S}^{37(2)(\mathbb{D})}}{\text{constraints}}\$ should be scheduled for a sworn statement as well. Please-call letters were mailed and sent to him on July 26, 2017 and August 3, 2017. Neither letter was returned to the CCRB by the US Postal Service. Between July 21, 2017 and August 3, 2017, four additional calls were made to \$\frac{\mathbb{S}^{37(2)(\mathbb{D})}}{\mathbb{C}}\$ Messages were left on the first three calls. On the final call, \$\frac{\mathbb{S}^{37(2)(\mathbb{D})}}{\mathbb{C}}\$ did not appear for this interview, and did not call ahead to cancel or reschedule. To date, \$\frac{\mathbb{S}^{37(2)(\mathbb{D})}}{\mathbb{C}}\$ has not contacted the CCRB to reschedule his interview.

- stated that after the incident, she spoke to an employee at a convenience store located at 909 Fulton Street. The employee told her that he had also witnessed the incident. The store's telephone number was retrieved via Google Maps. Please-call letters were sent to the store on July 17, 2017 and August 7, 2017. The letters were not returned to the CCRB by the US Postal Service. During an initial phone call on July 17, 2017, an unidentified employee stated that the employee on duty at the time of the incident worked the overnight shift and was not available. He declined to take a message for this employee. During a second call on July 21, 2017, a message for the overnight employee was left with a store manager. During a third call on August 7, 2017, a message was left with the overnight employee with another unidentified employee. This individual declined to provide the overnight employee's name or contact information. On August 10, 2017, [397(2)0], the store's owner, left a voicemail stating that he spoke to the overnight employee, and that the employee denied any knowledge of the incident. [37,0]
- Requests for Threat, Resistance and Injury Reports prepared in relation to sarrest were made to both the 88<sup>th</sup> Precinct and the in-house IAB liason. The 88<sup>th</sup> Precinct did not have the reports on file. The in-house liason was only able to obtain a copy of the report prepared by PO Zinser. This copy, however, was cut off, and could not be fully read. The liason was unable to locate a complete copy of the report (See Board Review #05: Partial TRI Report). No reports prepared by Lt. Delman were found at either command.

#### **Findings and Recommendations**

#### **Allegations Not Pleaded**

• **Abuse of Authority – Vehicle Stop:** It is undisputed that Lt. Delman and PO Zinser pulled over \$87(2)(6) s vehicle. Both officers stated that \$87(2)(6) was pulled over after he failed to use his turn signal while pulling out of a parking stop. Lt. Delman also stated that they pulled \$87(2)(6) over because his vehicle's windows were tinted and he had an open warrant for his arrest. PO Zinser stated that he was not aware of the vehicle's tinted windows or \$87(2)(6) s warrant until after the stop was initiated. After the stop, \$87(2)(6) was arrested. Among his charges was having a vehicle with improperly tinted windows and failing to signal a turn. Therefore, a vehicle stop allegation has not been pleaded in regards.

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# Allegation A –Abuse of Authority: Lieutenant Eric Delman threatened and individuals with the use of force.

It is undisputed that after Lt. Delman and PO Zinser pulled solvents solvents solvents by the rear of his vehicle. There, Lt. Delman and PO Zinser attempted to show solvents using their department-issued phone that he had an active warrant. Several of solvents friends, including solvents including solvents and solvents actions.
provided a telephone statement on August 9, 2017 (See Board Review #06: Statement). Statement). Stated that when the officers spoke to Statement) at the rear of the vehicle, she and Statement so other friends, including Statement and Statement and standing immediately next to each other, within arm's reach of each other. Lt. Delman made a telephone call to an unidentified party to verify swarrant. The person on the phone told Lt. Delman that Statement swarrant was "ineffective." Statement was "ineffective." Lt. Delman that he should release Statement was "ineffective." Lt. Delman then took out his taser and waved it towards the group. He stated that he would tase all of them if they did not step away from him. Statement was most aware of Lt. Delman pointing the taser at anybody else. She was not aware of Lt. Delman using the taser.
s Statement). S ST(2)(b) and did not discuss the actions of his friends during his arrest in detail. While S ST(2)(b) and noted that several of his friends observed his arrest, he did not indicate where they were standing or what, if any, interaction they had with Lt. Delman and PO Zinser.  S ST(2)(b) made no mention of any officers pointing a taser at any of the civilians who observed his arrest.
An \$87(2)(b) female witness provided a telephone statement on July 26, 2017 (See Board Review #08: Witness Statement). She declined to identify herself, but she denied that she was familiar with \$87(2)(b) or his friends before the incident. The \$87(2)(b) witness did not provide a full statement, and could not be subsequently contacted to complete her statement. She made no mention of any officer pointing a taser at any of \$87(2)(b) s friends. She also indicated that she arrived midway through the incident.
was interviewed at the CCRB on July 5, 2017 (See Board Review #09: \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ s Statement). \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ provided a telephone statement on July 10, 2017 (See Board Review #10: \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ s Telephone Statement). Neither of them was familiar with or his friends. \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ and \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ arrived at the incident location after had already been pulled over. They observed \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ standing at the rear of the vehicle with several plainclothes officers, including Lt. Delman. \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ noted that approximately thirty civilians were standing around \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ vehicle, while \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ or Lt. Delman, \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$ stated that the group was standing on the sidewalk next to \$\frac{87(2)(6)}{27(2)}\$ s vehicle, about twenty feet away from \$\frac{87(2)(6)}{27(2)}\$ Neither \$\frac{87(2)(6)}{27(2)}\$ nor \$\frac{8}{27(2)}\$

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Lt. Delman was interviewed at the CCRB on September 20, 2017 (See Board Review #11: Lt. Delman's Statement). Lt. Delman stated that \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ s group had been standing on the sidewalk when \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ was first pulled over. When \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ and the officers moved to the rear of the vehicle, this group came off of the sidewalk and stood a few feet away from where Lt. Delman was standing. The civilians were shouting angrily at the officers, protesting \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$ stop. Both Lt. Delman and PO Zinser told the civilians several times to step back, but they ignored these commands. Given their anger and refusal to step back, Lt. Delman felt that the civilians posed a threat to his and PO Zinser's safety. Lt. Delman then drew his taser and pointed it at an unidentified male civilian who was standing closest to him. Lt. Delman told this male to step back. Lt. Delman noted that he removed the cartridge containing the taser's leads before pointing it at the civilian. Lt. Delman put away his taser and returned his attention to \$\frac{87(2)(b)}{2}\$. He denied using the taser at any time.

made any mention of Lt. Delman pointing a taser at the bystanders or otherwise

threatening the bystanders with the use of force.

PO Zinser was interviewed at the CCRB on September 15, 2017 (See Board Review #12: PO Zinser's Statement). He also indicated that \$87(2)(b) at the rear of the vehicle. He estimated that they were standing about ten feet away from the officers. In addition to shouting at the officers, PO Zinser also alleged that these civilians started to throw pieces of garbage at him and Lt. Delman. Neither officer was struck by any objects. Both Lt. Delman and PO Zinser told these civilians to step back. The civilians ignored these commands. Lt. Delman then drew his taser and told the crowd again to stand back. PO Zinser was speaking directly to \$87(2)(b) at that point, so he did not see where Lt. Delman pointed the taser. The crowd did not move back, and continued to shout. Lt. Delman then put away his taser and resumed speaking to \$87(2)(b) PO Zinser then approached the crowd and asked them to calm down. This time, the civilians listened to PO Zinser and ceased shouting.

As discussed above, complete copies of the Threat, Resistance and Injury Reports prepared for this incident could not be obtained. Captain Brian Crowley of Transit Bureau Investigations prepared an Investigating Supervisor's Assessment Report for this incident, based on testimony from Lt. Delman and PO Zinser (See Board Review #13: ISAR). This report makes no mention of Lt. Delman or any other officer drawing or displaying his taser at any point.

NYPD <u>Patrol Guide</u> procedure 212-117 states that conducted energy devices such as tasers may be used in order to overcome resistance while effecting an arrest or when taking a mentally ill or an emotionally disturbed person into custody (See Board Review #14: Legal Reference).

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their position. Allegation B – Abuse of Authority: Lieutenant Eric Delman threatened § 87(2)(b) the use of force. stated that when he spoke to the officers at the rear of the vehicle, he told them that he was not going to let them arrest him. He did not state whether he was making any movements. Lt. Delman told him, "We can do this the easy way or the hard way." ser(2)(b) replied that the officers would have to arrest him "the hard way." Lt. Delman then drew his taser and pointed it at s face. He told § 87(2)(b) that if he did not put his hands behind his back, then he would be tased. §87(2)(b) refused to do so. Lt. Delman then put away his taser. He did not use the taser against \$87(2)(b) at any point. g 87(2)(b) did not see Lt. Delman point a taser at 887(2)(b) or otherwise threaten him with the use of force. She noted that after Lt. Delman had pointed his taser at her and her friends, she walked over to the driver's seat of \$87(2)(b) s vehicle to retrieve its keys. When she returned to the rear of the vehicle, she found that §87(2)(b) was lying on the ground. She had not witnessed what happened to \$87(2)(b) while she was at the driver's seat. female witness stated that Lt. Delman attempted to use a taser on §87(2)(b) before he was arrested. She did not describe this action in detail, and did not indicate what prevented Lt. Delman from using the taser. The witness did not describe \$87(2)(b) s actions during the incident in detail, either. s and § 87(2)(b) s statements regarding this allegation were generally consistent with each other. They both stated that they observed §87(2)(b) s interaction with Lt. Delman from the opposite side of the street. § 87(2)(b) however, stated that § 87(2)(b) crossed to the other side of the street to get closer to \$87(2)(b) at the time of the allegation. They were not able to hear what they were saying to each other. §87(2)(6) was not moving, and did not take any aggressive actions towards Lt. Delman. Lt. Delman appeared to be agitated, and was pacing back and forth in front of S87(2)(b) Lt. Delman then drew his taser and pointed it at s chest. The taser's red targeting light was visible on §87(2)(b) s chest. Another officer then stepped in front of \$87(2)(b) blocking the taser. Lt. Delman then put his taser away.

if this was because they were not present, or were simply unable to clearly see the crowd from

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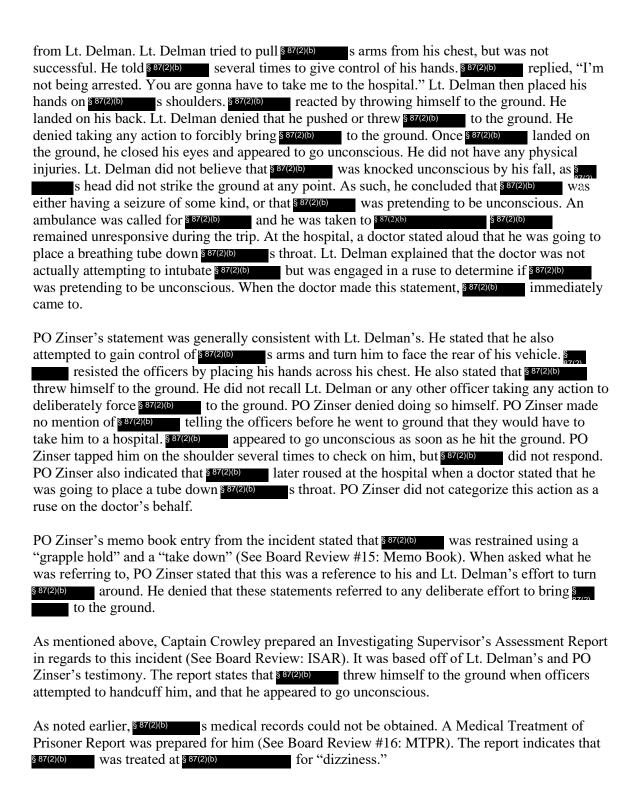
Both Lt. Delman and PO Zinser denied that Lt. Delman pointed a taser at \$87(2)(5) at any time. They denied that any officer placed themselves in front of \$87(2)(b) to prevent him from being tased. They denied that Lt. Delman threatened to use a taser or any other form of physical force against § 87(2)(b) As mentioned above, Captain Crowley prepared an Investigating Supervisor's Assessment Report in regards to this incident (See Board Review #13: ISAR). It was based off of Lt. Delman's and PO Zinser's testimony. The report made no mention of Lt. Delman or any other officer drawing a taser at any time. NYPD Patrol Guide procedure 212-117 states that conducted energy devices such as tasers may be used in order to overcome resistance while effecting an arrest or when taking a mentally ill or an emotionally disturbed person into custody. Factors to be considered when determining the appropriate level of force to use against an individual include the officer's perception of the subject's willingness to resist, an officer's perception of the immediate threat posed to the people present, and the officer's location in a hostile environment (See Board Review #14: Legal Reference). As discussed above, Lt. Delman and PO Zinser had indicated that they felt threatened by the actions of the crowd earlier in the incident. While it is undisputed that a crowd did form, the balance of testimony indicates that any threat that the crowd posed had been diminished by the time that Lt. Delman threatened \$87(2)(b) with his taser. \$87(2)(g)

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§ 87(2)(g)
Allegation C –Force: Lieutenant Eric Delman used physical force against §87(2)(b)
alleged that after Lt. Delman threatened to use his taser against him, Lt. Delman grabbed both of his arms and threw him down to the ground. Struck the ground, he immediately before Lt. Delman grabbed him. Once struck the ground, he immediately lost consciousness. When he next regained consciousness, he was in the denied sustaining any physical injuries from the incident. Since did not sign a HIPAA release form, his medical records could not be obtained.
As mentioned above, \$87(2)(b) filed one previous complaint with the CCRB, case #201405612. In this incident, Det. Sekou Bourne of Brooklyn North Narcotics punched \$87(2)(b) became unresponsive afterwards. \$87(2)(b) alleged that he was knocked unconscious by Det. Bourne's blow. During his CCRB statement, Det. Bourne stated that he suspected that \$87(2)(b) had pretended to be unconscious in order to force the officers to take him to the hospital. He suspected this because he allegedly noticed \$87(2)(b) smirking as he lay on the ground. The investigation was unable to conclusively determined whether \$87(2)(b) was actually unconscious during this incident.
As noted earlier, \$87(2)(b) was at the driver's seat of \$87(2)(b) s vehicle when \$87(2)(b) went to the ground. She did not see how \$87(2)(b) came to be on the ground. She did not see any officer use physical force against \$87(2)(b)
The \$87(2)(b) female witness stated that after Lt. Delman attempted to use his taser on \$27(2)(b) he placed \$87(2)(b) in handcuffs and "dumped" him on the ground. She did not describe this action in detail. She also did not describe \$87(2)(b) s conduct before Lt. Delman "dumped" him onto the ground.
s and \$87(2)(b) s tated that after Lt. Delman pointed his taser at \$87(2)(b) he grabbed \$87(2)(b) by both of his shoulders and threw \$87(2)(b) to the ground. No other officer made contact with \$87(2)(b) at that time. \$87(2)(b) stated that \$87(2)(b) landed on his front, while \$87(2)(b) stated that he landed on his side. Both stated that \$87(2)(b) s body went limp once he struck the ground. \$87(2)(b) did not move and appeared to be unconscious. No further force was used against \$87(2)(b) and did not observe any physical injuries to \$87(2)(b) are mained unconscious even after he was loaded into an ambulance.
Lt. Delman stated that after trying unsuccessfully to convince \$87(2)(b) that he had an active warrant, he attempted to place \$87(2)(b) in handcuffs. Lt. Delman placed his hands on \$37(2)(b) around to face his vehicle. From this position, he intended to bring \$87(2)(b) s arms behind his back. \$87(2)(b) tried to prevent the officers from controlling his arms by placing both of his arms against his chest and moving his shoulders away

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NYPD <u>Patrol Guide</u> procedure 221-01 states that officers may use force when placing a person into custody. Officers will only use the reasonable amount of force necessary to gain control or custody of a subject (See Board Review #17: Legal Reference).

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Squad:				
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Investigator: _				
	Signature	Print	Date	
Squad Leader: _	TP: 4 /G:			
	Title/Signature	Print	Date	
Reviewer: _				
TEVIEWEI				

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